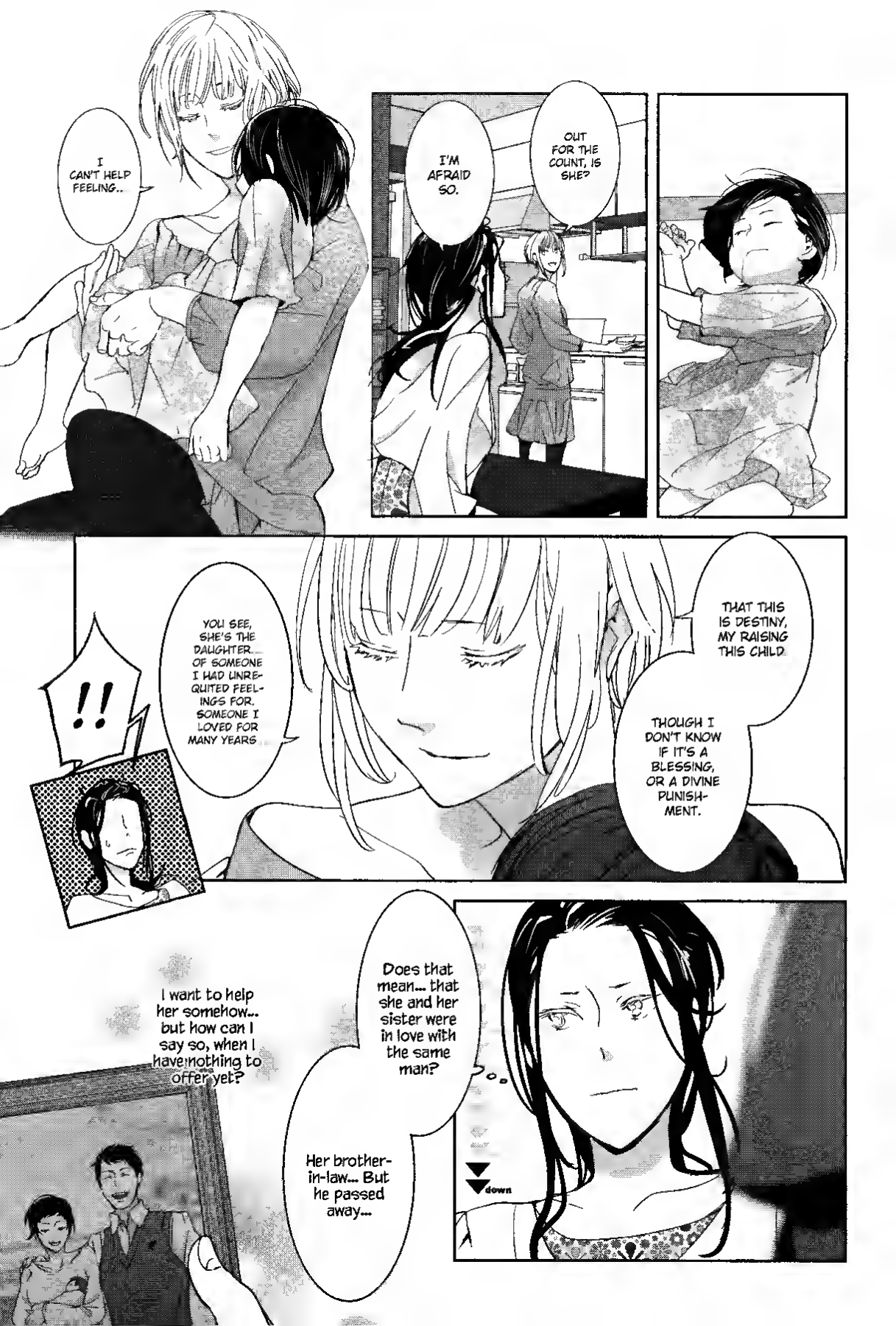
楽園
Le Paradis
[ル パラディ]
Tome 11
宵の口、
蜜を求めて逃避行。

I somehow managed to make it into my third-choice university, so I'm starting there this spring.
ARE YOU MOVING IN?
I was moving into my new apartment, with a rather heavy heart, when SHE appeared to me under a blooming cherry tree.
My spirits lifted immediately.
OH! YES, I'M IN 201
アップ&ダウン
up and down
YUKO Nishi
西UKO
When I fall in love, the littlest things
can send my mood soaring up or crashing back down. It's a bad habit.
I FIGURED! I'LL BE YOUR NEIGHBOR I'M IN 202.

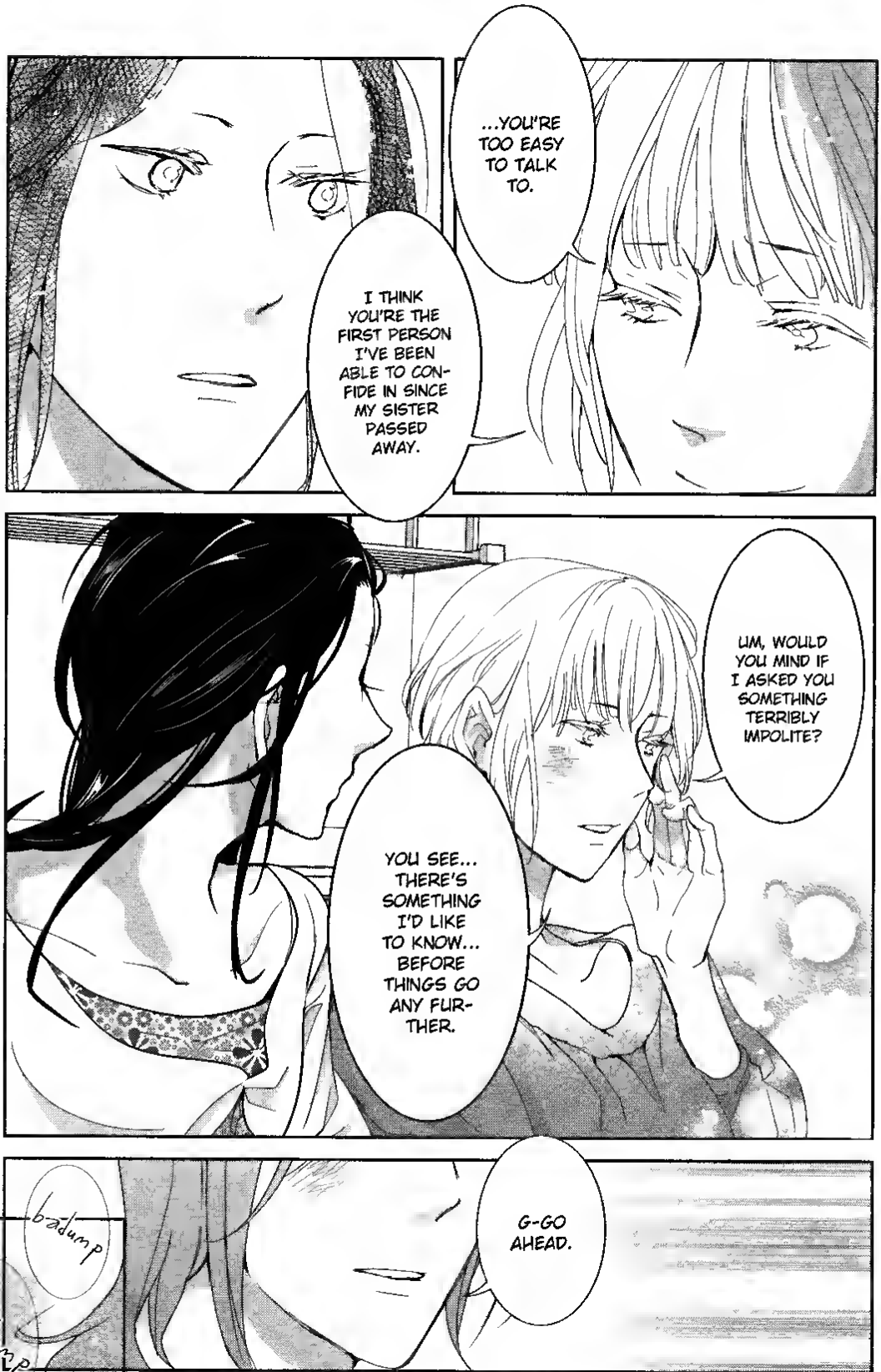
She always has a smile on her face. It's lovely.
up
Picking up some things on your way home from class?
Yes, I got out early today.
Thursday
OH, UM, FANCY MEETING YOU HERE!
OH! HELLO THERE.
But we can still relate to each other... I think.
up
Um, I was thinking maybe rice with bamboo shoots.
What are you making today?
Oh, that sounds lovely.
OH, GOOD! I'M JUST IN TIME
Wait, does that mean she's a lot older than me?
YOU NEED TO EAT A BALANCED DIET WHILE YOU'RE YOUNG
SO, YOU DO YOUR OWN COOKING FROM SCRATCH? I'M IMPRESSED! ♪
down

down
down
down
down
down
She's married?
Huh? What?! "Mommy"?!
I had no idea
Well, since she's older than me,
I guess... I should have known this was a possibility... but still, holy crap!
I haven't seen a husband around, though...
H-H-H-HELLO...
HELLO!
WELCOME HOME!
THIS IS OUR NEIGHBOR FROM NEXT DOOR
MOMMY!
I HAD NO IDEA YOU HAD A CHILD AND ONE OLD ENOUGH FOR SCHOOL!
THAT REALLY CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD.
SHE'LL BE IN FIRST GRADE NEXT YEAR.
Huh?
SHE'S MY NIECE, BUT I'M RAISING HER AS IF SHE WERE MY OWN...
...SHE'S NOT MY BIOLOGICAL DAUGHTER, SO PERHAPS I DON'T SEEM LIKE THE MOTHERLY TYPE.

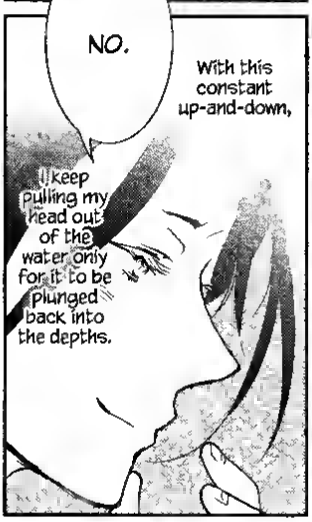
On the short walk to our building, she told me all about herself.
Her parents have both passed away.
So after high school, she got a job and took in her niece herself.
She isn't married, and has no particular inclination to be.
I'M SORRY. I'VE BEEN TALKING YOUR EAR OFF, HAVEN'T I?
NOT AT ALL...
PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE I'VE GIVEN UP ON GOING TO COLLEGE MYSELF... BUT WHEN I LOOK AT YOU, YOU SHINE SO BRIGHTLY.
YOU'RE DAZZLING.

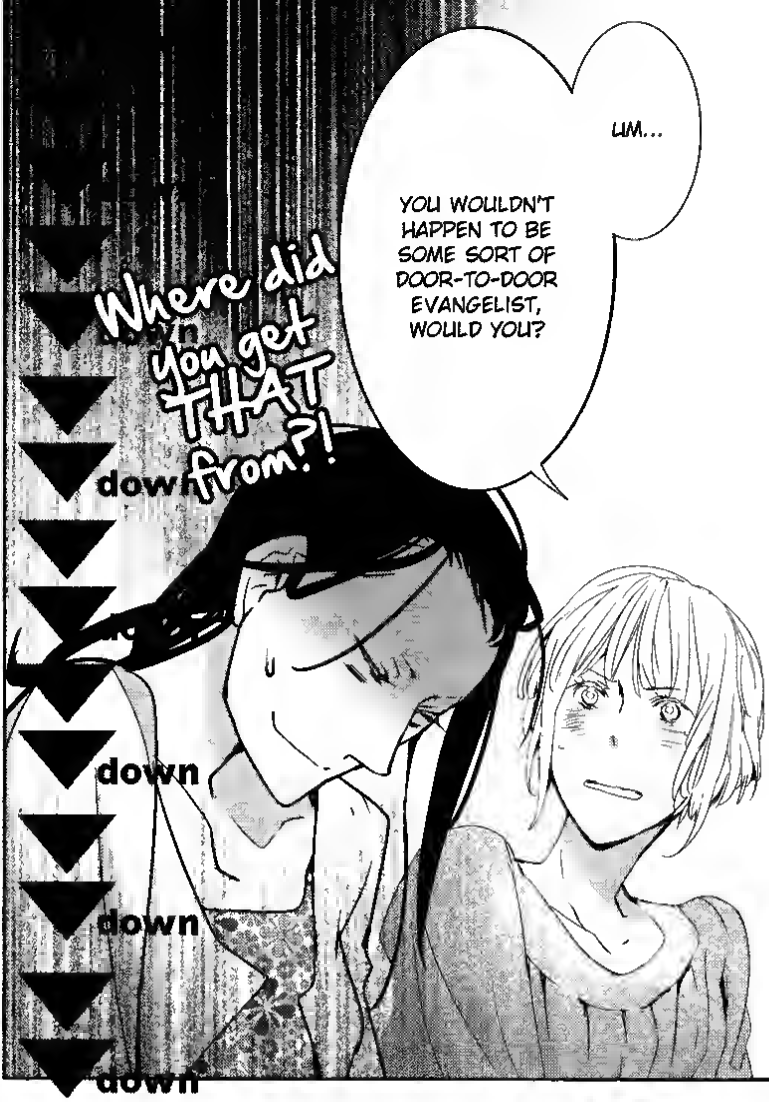

I CAN'T HELP FEELING...
I'M AFRAID SO.
OUT FOR THE COUNT, IS SHE?
THAT THIS IS DESTINY, MY RAISING THIS CHILD
THOUGH I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S A BLESSING, OR A DIVINE PUNISHMENT.
YOU SEE, SHE'S THE DAUGHTER... OF SOMEONE I HAD UNREQUITED FEELINGS FOR. SOMEONE I LOVED FOR MANY YEARS...
!!
Does that mean... that she and her sister were in love with the same man?
Her brother-in-law... But he passed away...
I want to help her somehow... but how can I say so, when I have nothing to offer yet?
down

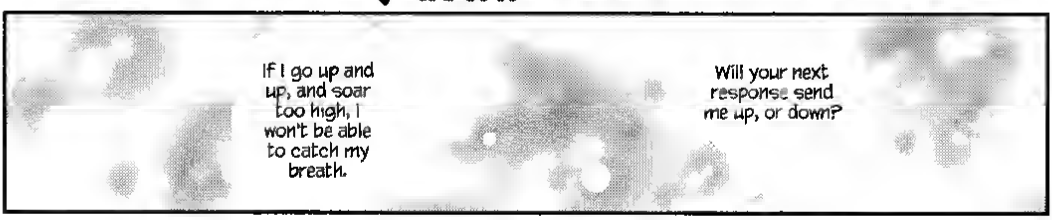
UNLIKE ME, MY SISTER HAD ELEGANT, BEAUTIFUL FEATURES.
HER DAUGHTER LOOKS MORE LIKE HER WITH EACH PASSING DAY.
IT HURTS TO LOOK AT HER... AND I'M SURE IT WILL ONLY BE WORSE AS SHE GETS OLDER.
WAIT... SO THE PERSON YOU LOVED... WAS...
I NEVER LET ON WHEN SHE WAS STILL ALIVE, OF COURSE.
It wasn't the man...?
Um... um... it sounds like she's loved her sister all this time, if she's bringing it up now.
Oh.
But that does mean my gender shouldn't be a problem.
Still, it sounds like she never got over her.
That might be why she had no interest in getting married.
BEING AROUND MY SISTER CAUSED ME NOTHING BUT PAIN BEFORE,
BUT, HMM... IT'S FUNNY, I FEEL LIKE I CAN JUST ACCEPT MY FEELINGS NOW.


...YOU'RE TOO EASY TO TALK TO.
I THINK YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON I'VE BEEN ABLE TO CONFIDE IN SINCE MY SISTER PASSED AWAY.
UM, WOULD YOU MIND IF I ASKED YOU SOMETHING TERRIBLY IMPOLITE?
YOU SEE... THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO KNOW... BEFORE THINGS GO ANY FURTHER.
G-GO AHEAD.
badump
badump

Your words have me on an emotional roller coaster, hopeful one moment and despairing the next. It almost feels like you're teasing me.
...NO.
HEE HEE.
You're laughing at me!


NO.
With this constant up-and-down,
I keep pulling my head out of the water only for it to be plunged back into the depths.


Where did you get THAT from?!
down
down
down
down
UM...
YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE SOME SORT OF DOOR-TO-DOOR EVANGELIST, WOULD YOU?


If I go up and up, and soar too high, I won't be able to catch my breath.
Will your next response send me up, or down?

That's right. I can't breathe,
I'm already drowning in you so deep.
NO,
I'M JUST SOMEONE WHO LOVES YOU.

Fin

up and down by Nishi Uko

http://lililicious.net
#lililicious on irc.rizon.net

Scanned and translated by: Sailor Avalon

Edited by: glassy

QC'd by: Anonko, SpaceTart, Sailor Avalon, and Rosa_Gigantea

Special Thanks: alpha

Blue Flor

http://rawdistro.net/
#IRC-distro@irchighway.net